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APR 19 2002

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of :  
Kimberly Ann Pfiffner et al :  
Application No. 09/918,091 : ON PETITION  
Filed: July 30, 2001 :  
Attorney Docket No. P04763US0 :  
:

This is in response to the "Petition Under 37 CFR 1.47(a)," filed January 17, 2002.

The petition is dismissed.

Rule 47 applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the mailing date of this decision to reply, correcting the below-noted deficiencies. Any reply should be entitled "Request for Reconsideration of Petition Under 37 CFR 1.47(a)," and should only address the deficiencies noted below, except that the reply may include an oath or declaration executed by the non-signing inventor.

**FAILURE TO RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT OF THE APPLICATION.**  
Any extensions of time will be governed by 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) requires: (1) proof that the non-signing inventor cannot be reached or refuses to sign the oath or declaration after having been presented with the application papers (specification, claims and drawings); (2) an acceptable oath or declaration in compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 115 and 116; (3) the petition fee; and (4) a statement of the last known address of the non-signing inventor. Applicant lacks item (2) set forth above.

As to item (2), the declaration fails to set forth the citizenship for inventors Kelm Brueschke, Andrew Thomas Kreider and Shelley Lynne Winchel. The statute at 35 USC 115 requires that the declaration shall state the country of citizenship of each inventor. Accordingly, a declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 and signed by all the other joint inventors on behalf of themselves and on behalf of nonsigning joint inventor Brueschke and leaving the signature block for inventor Brueschke blank is REQUIRED. See MPEP 409.03(a), 602, and 605.01. See also 37 CFR 1.63(a)(3).

Pursuant to petitioner's authorization, Deposit Account No. 26-0084 was charged \$130.00 for the late surcharge.

**In order to expedite consideration of the petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), petitioner may wish to consider submitting the renewed petition by facsimile transmission to the telephone number indicated below and to the attention of Wan Laymon.**

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail:            U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
                          Mail Stop DAC  
                          P.O. Box 2327  
                          Arlington, VA 22202

By FAX:            (703) 308-6916  
                          Attn: Office of Petitions

By hand:            Crystal Plaza Four, Suite 3C23  
                          2201 S. Clark Place  
                          Arlington, VA

Telephone inquiries related to this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (703) 306-5685.

*Frances Hicks*  
Frances Hicks  
Lead Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
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for Patent Examination Policy